

BA 2007

HELB HOUSE (LOWER)

1881-1896

PARKTON

PRIVATE

The southernmost of three Chestnut Row houses built by Frederick Helb sometime between his purchase of the ground in 1881 and the listing of four frame houses in the 1896 tax ledgers, this structure became George L. Hartenstein's house in 1905, and Jesse D. Talbott's in 1925. The present owners (Herbert W. Pearce and wife) acquired in 1968. This vernacular style, two-story duplex is covered with white aluminum siding. Roofing is black rubber tile. Foundation is stone, now coated with concrete.

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

1 NAME

HISTORIC HELB HOUSE (Lower)

AND/OR COMMON

Pearce House (Herbert)

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

18,907 York Road

CITY, TOWN

Parkton

VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

2nd

STATE

Maryland

COUNTY

Baltimore County

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY

☐ DISTRICT☒ BUILDING(S)☐ STRUCTURE☐ SITE☐ OBJECT

OWNERSHIP

☐ PUBLIC☒ PRIVATE☐ BOTH

PUBLIC ACQUISITION

☐ IN PROCESS☐ BEING CONSIDERED

STATUS

☒ OCCUPIED☐ UNOCCUPIED☐ WORK IN PROGRESS

ACCESSIBLE

☒ YES: RESTRICTED☐ YES: UNRESTRICTED☐ NO

PRESENT USE

☐ AGRICULTURE☐ MUSEUM☐ COMMERCIAL☐ PARK☐ EDUCATIONAL☒ PRIVATE RESIDENCE☐ ENTERTAINMENT☐ RELIGIOUS☐ GOVERNMENT☐ SCIENTIFIC☐ INDUSTRIAL☐ TRANSPORTATION☐ MILITARY☐ OTHER**4 OWNER OF PROPERTY**

NAME

Herbert W. Pearce and Dorothy Pearce

Telephone #: 357-5223

STREET & NUMBER

18,907 York Road

CITY, TOWN

Parkton

VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code

Maryland 21120

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,

REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

County Courts Building

Liber #: OTG 4879

Folio #: 446

STREET & NUMBER

401 Bosley Avenue

CITY, TOWN

Towson

STATE

Maryland 21204

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

NONE

DATE

☐ FEDERAL ☐ STATE ☐ COUNTY ☐ LOCALDEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

7 DESCRIPTION

HELB HOUSE (Lower)

BA-2007

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED DATE _____
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Helb House (Lower) is similar to the other two built as a set and stands on the hill north of Parkton, the house facing west. This is the brightest and best-kept of the houses, a two-story plus attic, gable-roofed, vernacular style structure, four bays wide by two bays deep, a frame and clapboard duplex now covered with white aluminum siding. The two entrance doors are clustered in the center bays. There is a full-width, shed-roofed front porch supported by four porch columns, plain square posts. Windows are 1-over-1 double-hung sash types with louvered shutters. All bays in both stories and in the two-bay depth of the side walls are supplied with windows of this type.

The two windows in each gable peak contain four lights.

The rear of the house is three bays across, the windows similar to those on the other facades. There is a walk-in entrance to the high basement under the rear of the house, and a shed-roofed back porch runs full width, sheltering the entrance and its flanking windows, the roof supported by plain posts.

The foundation, presumably stone, has been faced with smooth concrete.

The roofing on this structure is gabled, with overhanging eaves and eave returns. The single chimney is an inside end type, located at the south (or right-hand) end of the house.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

8 SIGNIFICANCE

HELB HOUSE (Lower)

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES 1881-1896

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

This house is the southernmost of three houses that were originally identical structures, built of once plentiful chestnut timber, and according to an adjoining landowner, called: "Chestnut Row." (1)

The land here was part of the timbering tract owned until 1880 by Christoff Kolter, who became insolvent. In the early 1880s, some of the timberland came on the market as town lots and Frederick Helb, who was involved in settling the Kolter affairs, acquired this lot in 1881 for \$180; the deed described it as adjoining Patrick Kelly's property. (2)

The 1896 tax ledger charged Helb with "4 frame houses on York Road at Parkton @ \$700," a total of \$2800 worth of improvements. Helb was described as a resident of Railroad Post Office, York County, Pennsylvania. (3)

In 1905, Helb died, still a resident of York County and his executors sold the southern two houses to Lydia Hartenstein. (4) Helb was apparently engaged in the tanning business in Pennsylvania, and his will mentioned "hides and bark in the tannery." (5) He had also been shown as owner of a sawmill on 226 acres somewhere north of Parkton and south of Maryland Line village by the tax ledger of 1896.

The 1911 tax ledger shows that George L. Hartenstine (sic) was owner of two lots on the eastside of York Road at Parkton along with two dwellings worth \$800 each. (6) One of the other Chestnut Row houses had gone into the hands of Edward Helb.

The 1918 tax ledger showed that George L. Hardenstine (sic) was owner of two houses located south of Edward Helb's. The two structures were listed as:

Dwelling #1	24 x 32	2 stories	\$887
Dwelling #2	24 x 32	2 stories	887. (7)

The same assessment shows that the house in Edward Helb's ownership was of identical measurements and worth \$800. (8) (The fourth house of the row was the one immediately north of the Trout Store, and it suffered such neglect, that it had to be demolished in the 1960s or thereabouts.)

In 1925, the Hartensteins sold what was described as "65 3/4 perches, neat measure, being half of the real estate" which the Helb heirs had sold them in 1905; the new owners of this, the southernmost house, were Jesse D. Talbott and wife. (9)

The present owners acquired in 1968 from E. Pearl Mays, widow. (10)

NOTES:

1. Interview with neighbor, local history expert, Miss Emily R. Stiffler, March 1980.
2. Baltimore County Deeds, WMI 130:500.
3. Tax Ledger, District 7, 1896, Entry #238-47.
4. B.C. Deeds, WPC 304:190.
5. B.C. Deeds, WPC 608:184. Also, York County Wills, Liber SS 19:94.
6. Tax Ledger, District 7, 1911, f. 544.
7. Tax Ledger, District 7, 1918, f. 533.
8. Tax Ledger, District 7, 1918, f. 556.
9. B.C. Deeds, WPC 610:31.
10. B.C. Deeds, OTG 4879:446.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES HELB HOUSE (Lower)

Baltimore County Deeds, Tax Ledgers, and Judicial Records.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 0.23

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION		
S61-3/4E	70.5 ft	N15W 30 ft
S15W	26	N25E 16
S61-3/4E	195	N73E 58
S24-1/2W	6	N15E 56.5 ft along York Road to Beginning.
S61-3/3E	4	
S24-1/2W	52.5	
N61-3/4W	195	(Map 17, Parcel P219)

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE NONE COUNTY NONE

STATE NONE COUNTY NONE

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE	
John W. McGrain, Sites Surveyor	
ORGANIZATION	DATE
Baltimore County Office of Planning and Zoning	May 28, 1980
STREET & NUMBER	TELEPHONE
401 Bosley Avenue	494-3495
CITY OR TOWN	STATE
Towson	Maryland

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature, to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 Supplement.

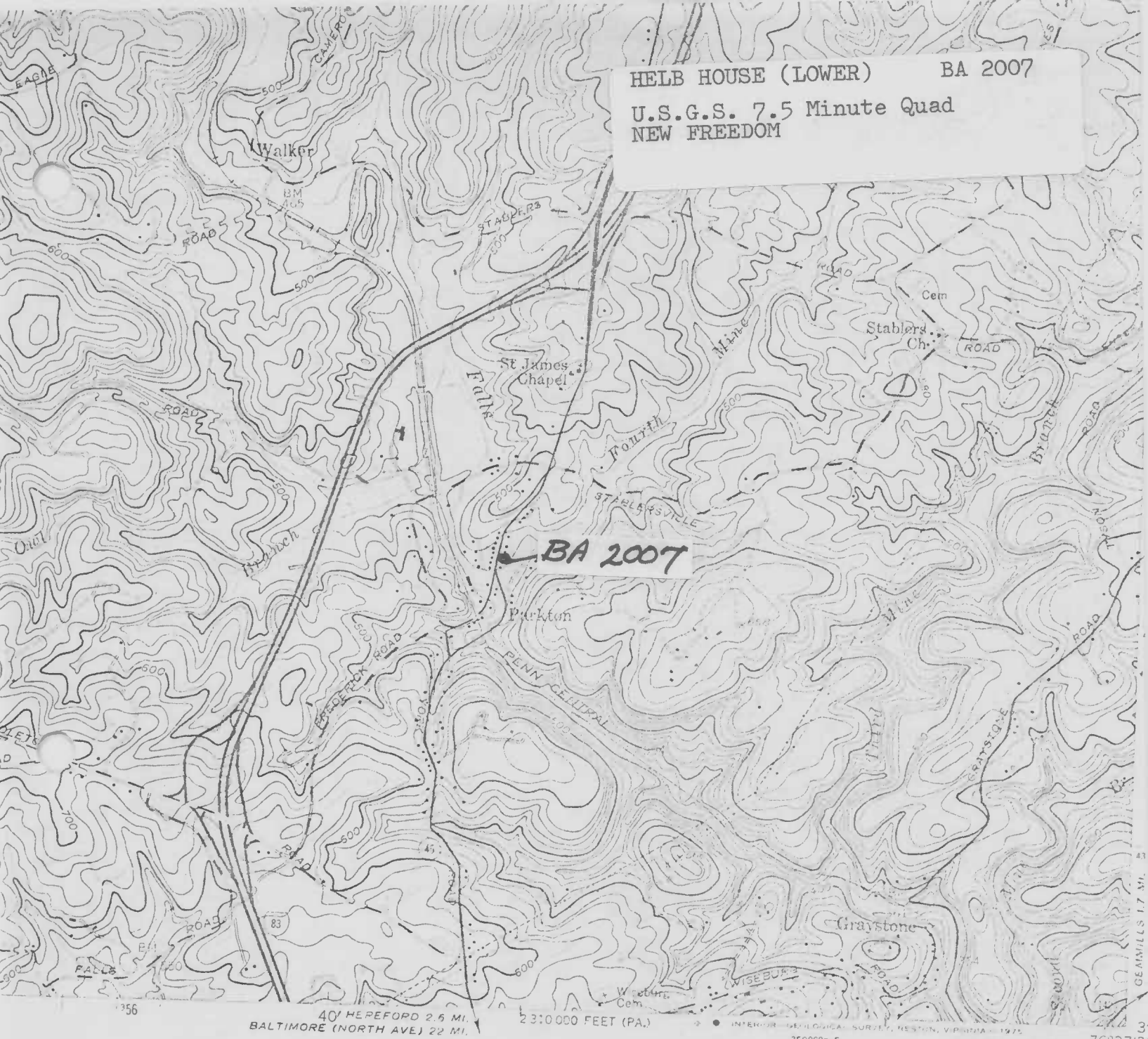
The Survey and Inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

RETURN TO: Maryland Historical Trust
The Shaw House, 21 State Circle
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
(301) 267-1438

HELB HOUSE (LOWER)

BA 2007

U.S.G.S. 7.5 Minute Quad
NEW FREEDOM



40' HEREFORD 2.5 MI.
BALTIMORE (NORTH AVE) 22 MI.

2310000 FEET (PA.)

359000m E.

WHITE HALL 0.3 MI

76°37'30"

1 MILE
0 5000 6000 7000 FEET
1 KILOMETRE

FEET
MUM OF 1929

ACCURACY STANDARDS
STON, VIRGINIA 22092
DLS IS AVAILABLE ON REQUEST



QUADRANGLE LOCATION

Revisions shown in purple compiled by the Geological
Survey from aerial photographs taken 1974. This
information not field checked.

ROAD CLASSIFICATION

Heavy-duty	—————	Light duty	—————
Medium-duty	—————	Unimproved dirt	—————
U. S. Route	⬡	State Route	◯

NEW FREEDOM, MD.—PA.

N3937.5—W7637.5/7.5

1958
PHOTOREVISED 1974
AMS 5653 II NW SERIES V833



HELB HOUSE (LOWER) BA 2007
Baltimore County, Maryland
J. McGrain, October 1980
Neg. located at MHT
West (main) and south facades



HELB HOUSE (LOWER) BA 2007
Baltimore County, Maryland
J. McGrain, March 1980
Neg. located at MHT
Rear (house on left)